

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
SCHEDULING COMMUNICATION USING A STAR SWITCHING FABRIC

5 ABSTRACT

10 In one embodiment, a scheduler for use with a star
switching fabric includes a scheduling star switching
fabric operable to receive a plurality of packets each
associated with one of a plurality of wavelengths and a
15 plurality of selecting elements associated with the
scheduling star switching fabric. Each of the plurality
of selecting elements is operable to contribute to
selectively passing packets from the scheduling star
switching fabric for receipt by a transmission star
switching fabric. Packets received at the transmission
star switching fabric over a given time period comprise a
more uniform load distribution than packets received at
an input to the scheduler over the same period of time.

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